HEALTH AFFAIRS

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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JUN 2 1 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (M&RA)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (M&RA)

SUBJECT: Policy Exception for Clinical Psychology Health Professions Scholarship

Program Participants Active Duty Service Obligation

Reference: DoDI 6000.13, "Medical Manpower and Personnel", June 30,1997

Recent changes in the practices for commissioning military officers have had an unintended consequence that negatively affects clinical psychology (CP) students participating in the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (HPSP). Individuals can no longer perform their fourth year of training (internship year) as a Reserve commissioned officer on Active Duty. Officers on Active Duty must now hold a regular commission which precludes their continued participation in HPSP.

Since the individuals are now excluded from HPSP participation and on Active Duty under a regular commission, their year of internship results in an additional three year training obligation under Long Term Health Education Rules per DoDI 6000.13. In effect, the active duty service obligation (ADSO) for a three year scholarship plus the clinical psychology internship means six years ADSO where previously, it was three years.

Effective immediately, clinical psychology HPSP recipients who participate in an Active Duty internship may serve the ADSO required under long-term health or health related education and training rules concurrently with the ADSO incurred for HPSP participation. A similar change will be made to DoDI 6000.13 at the earliest opportunity.

My point of contact is Mr. Rich Franco, who can be reached at (703) 681-4324 or email richard.franco@tma.osd.mil.

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cc:

Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel & Readiness) Surgeon General of the Army Surgeon General of the Navy Surgeon General of the Air Force

HA POLICY: 07-013